

THE SECOND

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B O O K
O F
J A M E S.

Containing the

LAMENTATION

O F

R I C H E T H.

Translated from the Original *Arabick* of

Belfhazzer Kapha, the JEW.



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THE SECOND

BOOK of *JAMES.*

CHAP. I.

1. **A**ND it came to pass, that when *Ricbeth* had heard of the upright Sentence of the Judges, and of the righteous Men of *Methom*, he entered his Chamber with silence.

2. And in the third hour of the second Watch of that Night, he opened his Mouth, and in the bitterness of his Soul he complained and said,

3. My Affliction is great, the Rod of Wrath is upon me, I am made desolate, and the Arrow of Justice hath pierced my Soul.

4. How am I fallen ! where is he that can help me ? if I turn my Face to the South, the Tears of the Widow, or to the North, the Crys of the Orphan are against me.

5. That Scot *M— — —r* hath chaced me ; like a Bear into a Toil, hath he hunted me down.

6. Who can deliver me ?

7. I shall henceforth be a Derision to the People ; how will the Children of Vanity mock me ?

8. Mine Eyes shall behold Peace no more, and my Prosperity is out of Sight.

9. Mine own Friends rose up against me ; yea, an *A---lite*, mine own Flesh became mine Adversary.

10. Even they who eat of my Bread combined against me, and brought mine Iniquity to light.

11. *F— —s* only stood by me, and took upon him my Defence ; yea, at the *C—r—b* in Peril of his own Life and Honour.

12. *H* — — — *n* has broke my Strength ; *L* — — *n* has caused my gay Hopes to vanish.

13. My Foes prevail against me, and I must perish encompassed by a stone Wall.

14. The Princes and mighty Men of the Land flee me already ; and I am become solitary like a Pelican in the Wilderness.

15. *J*ames I sent into Captivity, into the Desarts was he conveyed ; yet the Lord restored him to persecute me.

16. By Men of the North hath he pulled me down, and the Horn of my Strength have they broken.

17. I am sorely visited for the Multitude of my Transgressions, even my Children are removed from me.

18. How shall those wicked men of the North laugh me to scorn ? How will they triumph in my Miseries ?

C H A P. II.

1. **A**LL they have left me is the remembrance of my Greatness, and of the pleasant Things I possessed in Days of old.

2. I have grievously offended, therefore am I set apart : All that honoured me despise me, because my Shame is revealed.

3. My Adulteries rise up against me, and mine Oppressions stare me in the Face.

4. O that darkness would cover me, for the Light is offensive to me ; O how am I hated !

5. Mine Enemies have set themselves up against me, and have laid their Hands upon all my good Things.

6. How hath *G* — — — *d* the Scribe deceived me ; the honest were not for me ; what had I to do with the sons of Virtue ?

7. Yea *A* — — — *r* the Chief hath troden down my mighty men ; my best Friends hath he confounded in the midst of me.

8. He hath cloathed me with dishonour ; on my Ruin hath he exalted his Name.

9. The Children of times to come shall sing of him, his Praise shall be in the Mouth of the young Virgin.

10. But as for me, when I go down to the Pit, who shall remember me, or speak of me with Sorrow?

11. Like the pressed grape shall I be trodden under Foot; and they who pass me by, shall wag their Head, and say, *sie on thee.*

12. For these Things, and for mine Iniquities do I weep, and mine Eyes shall stream down with Tears.

13. Lament, my Children, because ye are desolate; and that mine Enemies have prevailed against me.

14. I called Women from the *South* to help me; yea, *Mary* the *H---ite* from a foreign Land to succour me, but in their testimony they started asunder, like a broken Bow.

15. By the Arm of Truth was I overthrown, and by the Sword of Justice was I hewen down.

16. I am broken to pieces like a Potter's Vessel, and who is there that can restore me?

17. Mine Anguish consumes me, like a burning Coal am I wasted, and in Sorrow shall I go down to the Grave.

C H A P. III.

1. **W**HEN these Tidings were brought to *Mary* the *H---ite*, her Soul was grieved within her.

2. And she rose up and ran unto the Tabernacle of *Richeth*, and said, if the Handmaid of my Lord was defeated by the Contrivance of the cunning Men of the *North*, let it not grieve him.

3. If I have rewarded *James* with Evil, who deserved well from me; if I have not belied the Innocent of his Birth-right, reproach me.

4. Like an Enemy persecuted I him, and laboured to tread down his Honour in the Dust.

5. Tho' Guile was in my Mouth, and the Truth not within my Lips; yet stood I up boldly for thee, and lifted up my Voice before the Judges and the People.

6. Tho' thousands might rise up against me; yet undauntedly did I speak for thee.

7. The Judges saw my Falshood, and the Men of the Land

Land mine Iniquity, and I am therefore a By-word among the People.

8. Begird thyself therefore, and rise up and deliver me from the Rage of mine Enemies, who will encompass me with Shame; and set me up to Scorn.

9. Because I am corrupt, and have wrought abominable Works; therefore are the Children of Men set against me.

10. Who will hereafter look upon me? I have turned aside from the Ways of Truth: I am altogether filthy.

11. C——s hath pulled the Mask from off my Face; yea, B——o hath made known my Perjuries.

12. The Servants of Justice seek after me. Tush, whither shall I turn for Safety, or where shall I hide mine Head?

13. C——y and H——m took Council against Mary the G——ite, and overthrew her with great Shame.

14. Peradventure, that while I speak to my Lord, her Enemies surround her, and there is none to help her.

15. M——r that Scot, rageth about like a roaring Lion: who can escape him?

16. Whilst she was yet speaking, there entered his Pavilion the B——ite, the J——ite, the D——ite, the L——ite, with Mathias the R——ite, and with them came also the Elder and the Younger of the P——tines.

17. And they cloathed themselves in Sack-cloath and Ashes, and sat down to mourn with him.

C H A P. IV.

1. T Hree Days and three Nights looked they one upon another; and none opened his Mouth, because of the sore Travel and great Evil that was upon him.

2. Howbeit, the R——ite broke Silence, and comforted him, saying,

3. Though the bitter Enemy hath for a little prevailed against my Lord; notwithstanding gird up thy Loins and prove thyself a Man.

4. Let it not be told at the Gates of London, let it not be heard in the Streets of Dublin, that you grieved like one whose Hopes were not.

5. Let the Children of our Enemies be glad, and those wicked Men from the North rejoice.

6. A

6. A Curse be on the Womb that carried them, and
in the Paps that gave them Suck ; for Mischief have they
conceived against us, and our Ruin have they almost
wrought forth.

7. Were not the Friends of my Lord stedfast to his
side ? did not they surround him like a strong Bulwark ?

8. Did not I, even I thy faithful Servant, abide by
thee ? and if I ever forsake thee may this Right Hand
forget it's Cunning.

9. Yea, the *B---ite* and the *J---ite* break their Vows for
thy Service ; and revealed the hidden Things of the
Commission.

10. Nor can thy faithful *D---ite* be obraided ; for as
much as he stood up in thy Behalf, tho' the Congregati-
on saw his Reproach, yet for thee ventured he his own
soul.

11. Lo ! here thy trusty *L---ite* ; verily in vain
wore he for thee ; to no purpose was his Deceit covered
with the Robe of Innocency.

12. In vain did the Wife of his Bosom, forgetful of
her own Shame, appear for thee.

13. Notwithstanding his own Ears bear Witnes of his
Iniquity, the younger — opened his Mouth with fal-
lowness, and boldly speak he with a lying Tongue.

14. The Elder — did also the like, not rememb'ring
the dishonoured Scalp of his Son ; nor himself even now
going down to the Grave.

C H A P. V.

AND I thy faithful *R---ite* cast about for such Spi-
rits, as could best minister to thy Doings.

2. Neither canst thou object, that my heart failed, or
that my Knees knocked together at this Thing.

3. For if I escaped the Shafts of Vengeance, when
polluted the Holy Temple, and committed divers o-
ther Abominations ; I might fearless set my Face to do
this little Thing.

4. Unawares have those *Scots* wrought upon us, and have
destroyed us like a Plague working in secret.

5. *K---dy* issued forth in secret ; *L---n* by
Night, and gathered our Foes from the four Winds.

6. Like

6. Like Lightning they fell upon us, and by the Councils of *M—k—r*, are we overthrown.

7. How have they deceived us ! they seemed without Fraud, yet with Darknes was their Purpose covered.

8. From his own Home, with the Cunning of a Serpent, came *G——y* the Scribe ; he made ready his Quil, and sharpened the Edge of the Law against us.

9. He has ensnared us with his Wiles ; and the Net of Deceit hath he cast about us.

10. By his Aid were We torn to pieces, and rent asunder like an old Garment.

11. Howbeit, tho' Justice encompassed *James* like a Coat of Mail, and the Laws defend him like a strong Shield, yet may he be broken to Pieces.

12. Are there not still left in the Land enough of the Children of the *Ibmaelites*, who delight in Prey, and take Pleasure in spilling the innocent Blood.

13. Now if my Council seem good unto you, let these Men be gathered, some of whom shall journey unto the Land of *W—x—f—d*, with my Lord to preserve his Inheritance there.

14. And I will tarry behind in the great City with those that remain, and we will cast about for an Occasion meet for devouring *James*.

15. And the Words of the Man were like *Balm* unto the Wounds of *Ricketb*.

16. And lo ! the Heart of *Ricketb*, and those that were with him, were lifted up ; and they blasphemed against Justice, and entered into Council against her.

17. And they arose up and departed, some one way, and some another, as the Spirit of Evil bad them.

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